inter alia, the situation in Afghanistan and Iraq. The Minister of External Affairs and Mr. Igor Ivanov, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, have also spoken to each other over telephone twice on 23 March and 24 April, 2003. The Iraq war was also discussed in these two telephonic conversations. The two sides shared their views about the military action against Iraq and expressed concern at the humanitarian situation in Iraq. India and Russia share the view that the military action against Iraq should not weaken the resolve of the international community to fight terrorism in Afghanistan and in the region. Discussions on Afghanistan included the progress in implementation of Bonn Agreement of December 2001, and coordination of various international efforts aimed at rehabilitation and reconstruction. India and Russia also discussed the threats to regional peace and stability from terrorist activity in the region, and efforts aimed at strengthening international mechanisms to fight against international terrorism. They expressed serious concern over the escalation of subversive and terrorist activity by the Taliban and Al Qaida remnants and others in Afghanistan and their efforts to regroup with support from the outside.

(c) Yes.

(d) India's position on these issues is reflected in the Resolution adopted by the Parliament of India on 8 and 9 April, 2003.

Withdrawal of sanctions against civilian technology by U.S.A.

5028. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether American sanctions against India on civilian technology have been lifted;

(b) if so, whether this was possible by follow-up paperwork done by the Political Advisor to the Prime Minister during his visit to Washington in the month of December, 2002;

(c) if so, to what extent U.S. Government has finally cleared the US technology transfer to India; and

(d) to what extent it would be helpful to India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) In September 2001, the United States had lifted all sanctions against India imposed after the nuclear tests in May 1998, including

on export of 'dual use' technologies to India. However, the United States continues to maintain some restrictions on such exports on the basis of its domestic law and its obligations to the international non-proliferation regimes.

(b) The subject of broader access for India to U.S. controlled 'dual use' goods and technologies has beeen an important element of bilateral dialogue with the United States at all levels, including during the National Security Advisor's visit to Washington D.C. in December 2002.

(c) During the visit of Foreign Secretary to Washington D.C. in February 2003, India and the United States signed a Statement of Principles to enhance high-technology commerce, including trade in 'dual use' goods and technologies. The Statement articulates, *inter alia*, the intention of the two Governments to address regulatory, policy and procedural issues to facilitate India-U.S. trade in dual use' goods and technologies. Expert from the two Governments are scheduled to meet in July 2003 to discuss ways to implement the principles.

(d) Implementation of these principles will contribute to India's economic and technological development.

U.S. attention towards Indo-Pak issues

5029. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether U.S. has promised to give more attention to the Indo-Pak issues after the Iraq war;

(b) if so, whether some of the important leaders of US have made these remarks in *New York Times* interview in the first week of April, 2003;

(c) whether they have been intimating India that Pakistan is being asked to stop infiltration and also have a lull in the LoC;

(d) If so, whether all these verbal instructions have failed to check Pakistan's activities in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(e) if so, to what extent, India is hoping that U.S. will pressure Pakistan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) In an interview to the *New York Times* on 29 March 2003, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell, speaking on the subject of the broader U.S. foreign policy agenda, had mentioned, among other issues, "India, Pakistan and the whole Sub-Continent problem" and stated that the